

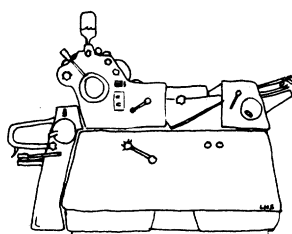
We're in trouble, folks.

We have just not received enough money this fall from our subscribers, and now we're falling way behind.

Summer is normally not such a good time for money; the fall is usually different. But this fall has been pretty bad. And in past years, December, because of the holidays, has also been a hard time financially. So it really could get worse.

We know it's a tough time economically for everyone. Usually we try not to hassle people about money too much, you all know that. But the fact is that too few are paying anything at all. Now we must rely on you to help us get through another financial crisis.

Please send as much as you can afford as soon as you can.



LIBERATION NEWS SERVICE

Packet #574
December 8, 1973

TABLE OF CONTENTS

North Vietnam -- The New Front is Production: An Interview with Cora Weiss.....	1
Showdown in Boston: Stage Set for Tea Party Celebration.....	4
"Paying Through the Ear:" Study Shows How Hearing-Aid Dealers Dupe their Customers.....	5
Inmate's "Suicide" at Marion Penitentiary Sparks Protests and Calls for Investigation....	6
Nixon's Dog: Some Things Just Can't be Delegated.....	6
"This is a Victory for the Women of Canada;" Canadian Abortionist Acquitted.....	7
Junta PR Campaign Underway as Chileans Face Rampant Inflation, Shortages.....	8
Prisoners Call for Christmas Fast in Support of Attica.....	9
Three of Chicago 8 and Kunstler Convicted of Contempt Charges; Trial Brings Out Government Tactics Against the Left.....	10

GRAPHICS

Three recent photos of North Vietnam and one photo of Bach Mai Hospital after bombing.....	P-1
Photo from Chile demonstration in NYC, Dec. 5....	P-2
Photo of bombed office of USLA	
Drawing of colonialists and tarred and feathered British customs officer, about time of Boston Tea Party	
Businessmen's hands wrapped around world grabbing Africa	
Plaintiff card for People's Lawsuit to Set Aside the 1972 Election	

TABLE OF MALCONTENTS

COLLECTIVE: Anne Dockery, Beryl Epstein, Howie
Epstein, Ellen Garvey, Cidne Hart, Barbara Plog,
Sandy Shea, Mike Shuster, Jessica Siegel, Ron
Sirak, Nancy Stiefel
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IF YOU ARE MISSING A PAGE OR GET A BADLY PRINTED GRAPHIC, LET US KNOW AND WE'LL SEND YOU ANOTHER SOON

[Note to Editors: This is only half of a long interview with Cora Weiss. The second half, which will appear in Packet #575, deals with South Vietnam, describing life in the PRG areas, the situation in Saigon, and talks more about the possible re-escalation of the war in the South. Although the two sections are complementary, you should be able to run either half without the other.

Graphics to accompany this half of the interview appear in this packet. Other photos from North Vietnam, taken in 1971, appear in recent packets and might also be used.]

NORTH VIETNAM -- THE NEW FRONT IS PRODUCTION:
AN INTERVIEW WITH CORA WEISS

LIBERATION News Service

[Editor's note: On October 20, Cora Weiss, Don Luce, and Sam Noumoff began a four-week stay in North Vietnam while waiting for rainy weather to clear so that they could travel to South Vietnam. They had been asked by the Provisional Revolutionary Government of South Vietnam (PRG) to visit Quang Tri province, the first official American delegation to be so invited.

Don Luce, director of the Washington-based Indochina Mobile Education Project, is an agronomist and journalist who is probably best known for uncovering the now notorious tiger cages on Saigon's Con Son Island. He lived in South Vietnam for 11 years and speaks Vietnamese fluently. Sam Noumoff, who is a professor at Montreal's McGill University, has traveled to both North and South Vietnam.

Cora Weiss co-chaired with Dave Dellinger the Committee of Liaison with the Families of Prisoners Detained in North Vietnam, a group that kept up communications between American prisoners in the DRV and their families in the United States.

In the following interview, conducted on December 3, she talks about North Vietnam, how it has changed, and its prospects for war and peace.]

YOU HAD ALL BEEN TO NORTH VIETNAM AT ONE TIME OR ANOTHER. THIS WAS YOUR THIRD TRIP AND SAM AND DON'S SECOND. HOW DID IT COMPARE WITH THE OTHER TIMES?

I was there last in September '72 and before that in November '69. Even in September '72 there were no children on the streets of Hanoi and there was very little color -- things were still camouflaged. Factories and schools were still evacuated. All the holes in the sidewalk that you dive into and pull the concrete cover over your head were very much available in case an air raid sounded. And while we were there in September '72, there were plenty of air raids and we had to jump in for cover.

Now, in October of '73, the children are back on the streets, the holes in the sidewalks are filled with dirt and the covers are gone. Schools are not only back in session but they're overcrowded, running two or three shifts a day.

The population has increased since my first visit in '69 when it was 17 million, to 21 million people. That's a million a year. Birth control is a subject that's talked about everywhere. Apparently in the past two or three years, women who have

had four or five children go in for voluntary abortions and birth control information. In 1969 you had to get permission from the local Women's Union and your husband to have an abortion; in 1973 you can just walk in and get one, no questions asked.

There have been a lot of changes over the years. The biggest single change is reflected on the billboards throughout the country. In '69 and '72, the billboards said, "Produce for the front," "Produce for the war effort." Now they say, "The fatherland calls you to the new front -- Production," or they exhort the population to increase the rice yield, to increase the production of crops, to increase whatever they do, whether it's forestry, or animal husbandry, cotton production, vegetable planting, embroidery or weaving. Whatever it is, do it more.

There's a big push for industrialization, which is based on a paper that was written in April by Le Duan, the Workers Party Secretary. Everyone has studied the paper thoroughly. Basically, it prepares the population for shifting from a war economy, a war production, and a war psychology, to a peace economy, a peace production, and a peace psychology. And it's concerned with creating a sense of efficiency in the population, because you can't really have industrialization without efficiency.

DO YOU REALLY THINK THEY'RE PREPARING FOR A PEACETIME ECONOMY?

Absolutely -- in the North -- without a question. They're in a mad rush to do two or three things at once. They're in a period of recovery now, between the bombing and reconstruction. They're building temporary new homes. They're repairing roads and bridges so that eventually heavy trucks will be able to go everywhere and build new factories and industry.

They're also in a mad dash to regain their position in the world of nations, diplomatically and economically. In one week while we were there, at least half a dozen ambassadors presented their credentials in Hanoi. In that same week, Pham Van Dong, the Prime Minister, was in Eastern Europe negotiating for postwar technical aid.

No matter where we went in North Vietnam we saw foreign technicians, from China, Cuba, Algeria, Yugoslavia, Poland, East Germany, the Soviet Union, Indonesia, India, Japan -- even English businessmen.

It's overwhelming. When you ask the Vietnamese whether they're overworked they say, no, they're not overworked, but they're worked "enough," which is the same thing. They don't have enough cars, enough translators, enough facilities. There are two major hotels for foreigners in Hanoi and three or four smaller ones and they're all full.

In 1972 you might see a few foreigners in Hanoi; you can't count them now. There are Chinese building a hydroelectric plant outside of Thanh Hoa. There is going to be a Cuban Venceremos Brigade of 600 people coming in January for two years.

WHAT ARE THEY GOING TO WORK ON?

They're going to build a hospital in Dong Hoi, which was promised by Castro when he was there in September, and a chicken breeding station near the Laotian border. They're bringing in a thousand dairy cattle, and bringing fishing trawlers to Haiphong, and they're going to build a 400-room hotel in Hanoi in time for the celebration of the 85th birthday of Ho Chi Minh two years from now. That's timed for a year ahead of Nixon's eventual demise, unless he demises sooner. The feeling is that the Vietnamese should one-up Washington on celebrations.

December 8th will be the first anniversary of the bombing of Bach Mai and the general murderous bombing of Hanoi, and they'll have a memorial service there for the nurses, doctors and patients that were killed.

We visited Bach Mai and saw them rebuilding the damaged Ear Nose and Throat Wing, which is the wing that's been taken on by the United States, by Medical Aid for Indochina [now called the Bach Mai Fund].

Bach Mai used to have 900 beds. There are less than 400 now. They had 400 doctors, but there are fewer than 150 now. Less than a third of the whole complex is functional, and everything that works is temporary. You walk into a room and half the ceiling has fallen down, the roof is caved in, but they use it.

They plan to have completed the rebuilding by 1978, and consider themselves lucky to do it by then because there are so many homes, factories, and other places to be rebuilt, so many priorities.

STILL, FIVE YEARS SEEMS LIKE A LONG TIME. IS THE DELAY DUE TO A LACK OF TECHNOLOGY, A LACK OF MONEY, OR BOTH?

Both. There is no capital. Hoang Tung, the editor of Nhan Dan, told us that they have to industrialize and produce in order to survive. They have to create export markets, and they're doing that, slowly. But even if they had the money, they just don't have the technical know-how and equipment to rebuild quickly.

For instance, they're building prefabricated housing, their first attempt at dealing with pre-fab. The units are three or four stories high, and they're very long, and they're very close to each other. So families can't have animals -- chickens and pigs -- which is what they're used to. And they can't scratch a garden very easily. The units are built this way to save money, but even as economically as they're built, they're still too expensive. So, among other things, the Vietnamese are asking Americans for research on pre-fab production and pre-fab housing.

THE NORTH VIETNAMESE HAVE ASKED REPEATEDLY FOR THE RECONSTRUCTION MONEY THAT'S OWED TO THEM BY THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT, BUT DO THEY REALLY HOPE TO GET IT?

Under Article 21 of the Paris Agreement to End the War in Vietnam, the United States agreed to "heal the wounds of war." Le Duc Tho, in a two-hour inter-

view with us, said that the United States is obligated to pay that post-war aid and that the American people should compel the American government to carry out its obligations.

We asked him A., if he expected the aid, and B., why the Paris negotiations on post-war aid broke down.

He wouldn't say whether he expected the aid or not, he simply insisted that it's the American obligation to give it. He said that in Paris the United States had cited internal problems, such as the absence of Congressional approval, for not complying with Article 21. He pointed out that before, the United States rationalized its entry into the war on the basis of an international agreement [SEATO], and didn't look for Congressional approval then. Now, the United States is refusing to keep an international agreement because Congress doesn't approve.

What Congress will or won't approve, he said, is your affair. You signed an international treaty, we don't care how you go about getting the money, you've got to pay it. The talks broke off, he said, because of all the preconditions the United States was placing on the aid.

Some of the preconditions, by the way, relate to the MIA business -- Missing in Action. Congressmen have said that as long as there are men missing in action, we won't give them a penny. The Missing in Action campaign is being used as a device to prevent post-war aid, just and the Prisoner of War campaign was used as a device to maintain the concept of enemy, and to prevent the ending of the war. We had to bomb Vietnam for our prisoners. We had to bomb Vietnam for our soldiers.

DO YOU THINK WE'RE GOING TO BOMB VIETNAM FOR THE MIA'S?

I think we're going to bomb South Vietnam, but not for the MIA's. I think we're going to bomb it because Americans are not used to defeat. Ten years of the greatest technological power in the world fighting bare hands and bare feet and not winning -- and winning would mean colonizing the country, since that's the only way you win a war, by making it yours -- means defeat. The defeat is that we were forced to withdraw our forces. And therefore the Paris Agreement on Ending the War in Vietnam is a tremendous victory for the Vietnamese. And if all the provisions of the agreement were really carried out, the United States wouldn't be there today.

But the provisions are being violated and the United States is there, in the following ways. Twenty-two or twenty-three tons of fuel a day are shipped to South Vietnam and Cambodia, according to CBS. Six hundred and something gallons of fuel per mission, per plane, is used to carry out air flights. Last week, on Tuesday alone, 113 sorties were flown out of Saigon onto known PRG territory. Multiply 600 and something gallons times 113 flights. That means if you're sitting at home cold right now, that's where your gas and

oil are. And I don't understand why Americans should put up with that.

DO YOU THINK THERE WILL BE BOMBING AGAIN IN THE NORTH?

Probably not, although it's not impossible. I just received a copy of a report by Gabriel Kolko on hearings in the House and Senate. I'll read this straight:

"The Senate Armed Services Committee and House Appropriations Committee hearings on the Pentagon budget until July 1974 are now available. And the traditionally dilligent censors have released a-larming new information on the Nixon Administration's plans for Indochina.

"The facts further shatter its claims to have ended the Vietnam war, much less [its claims] to bear no responsibility for the Thieu government's violations of the Paris agreement. If the Administration implements all the contingencies for which the Pentagon has budgeted, at the very least it will assure that the existing bloody conflict will drag on, and the worst we can expect is an escalation to direct U.S. participation in the air war...

"Last August 1, a Pentagon spokesman revealed to the House that it had put aside \$275 million for the direct use of U.S. air power, including B-52's, through June 1974. Bombing in Cambodia up to the August 15 cut-off consumed \$50 million. The rest was to 'keep the area stabalized,' and the censor sanitized out the number of possible sorties. The Senate hearings however, contained the air-war cost data that allows anyone to figure out the missing information quite accurately.

"\$225 million will buy 120 thousand tons of bombs delivered by 3800 B-52's, and 16,700 bomber sorties, an amount far in excess of the 1965 air munitions. Meanwhile the Pentagon budgeted the 7th fleet to keep 77 ships and 331 aircraft in Southeast Asia..."

The conclusion is this. The August 15 bombing halt involved the air forces and ground forces in Cambodia and the ground forces everywhere else in Indochina, but not the air forces in Indochina. Now, Kissinger is seeking legal counsel, to see if there are limits on the president's ability to resume the war under the War Powers Act, or whether he was restricted by the cut-off?

Robert Ingersoll, the proposed Assistant Secretary of State for East Asia and Pacific Affairs, testified at his confirmation hearings in November that "we're considering and discussing" whether or not to resume bombing. The Administration right now seems to be probing for public opinion. And if there is no uproar from Congress, from individuals, from the American public, then I think Nixon's likely to go ahead.

HOW DO THE VIETNAMESE SEE THE UNITED STATES NOW? DO THEY UNDERSTAND WATERGATE AND THE POSITION THAT NIXON IS IN?

The Vietnamese have had 19 centuries of experience, and they're not dumb. They know enough of Nixon's history not to trust him, and they know

that whatever has happened internally, the global designs -- which is a phrase they use -- of the United States have not changed. It's essentially a power that is interested in imperial gains, colonialism, and that doesn't take defeat easily.

And so the Vietnamese are "vigilant." While they're rebuilding the North, they understand that the war is not over in the South. And in the South, while they're rebuilding, I think that they're only rebuilding with nine fingers.

* * *

Le Duc Tho would like to see the day when North Vietnam resumes normal diplomatic and economic relations with Washington. Americans forget that Ho Chi Minh was in New York in 1914, and that there was once an American consulate in Hanoi.

I sat at dinner in front of a red brick fireplace, the kind you only find in New England, but it was in Hanoi. And the permanent representative of the PRG said to me, "How do you like the fireplace?" What used to be the American consulate is now the home of the PRG in Hanoi.

Americans forget that in 1944 an American pilot was shot down by the Japanese in North Vietnam when we were at war with Japan and America was flying over "the hump" -- the hump being the mountains that separate North Vietnam from China. At that time, the Japanese occupied Vietnam.

A North Vietnamese General Giang rescued, not captured, that downed American pilot. And he couldn't speak to the pilot and the pilot couldn't speak to him. For 27 days and 27 nights General Giang walked this pilot, who refused to change out of his uniform, to Pac Bo, near the China border, where Ho Chi Minh was living in a cave.

Ho, who spoke fluent English, talked to the pilot. Ho wore the very simple clothes of the minority tribes of the area, and after they talked, the pilot took off his uniform and put on a simple tunic suit that Ho gave him.

The American pilot was then escorted safely across the China border, and flown back to the United States. The result of that episode was the development of a relationship between the OSS [Office of Strategic Services] and the Vietminh. From June to August 1944, American intelligence officers came to North Vietnam and worked with the Vietminh in tracking Japanese planes and gunners. I met General Giang. He told me that story himself.

-30-

"I hope we shall crush in its birth the aristocracy of our moneyed corporations, which dare already to challenge our government to a trial of strength and bid defiance to the laws of our country."

--Thomas Jefferson

[See graphics sections for graphics to go with this.]

SHOWDOWN IN BOSTON:

STAGE SET FOR TEA PARTY CELEBRATION

LIBERATION News Service

BOSTON (LNS)--There is going to be another Boston Tea Party on December 16, the 200th anniversary of the original one, and, like the first, its building towards a clash between people and corporate power. As plans develop for two very different celebrations of the event, both scheduled for 2pm at the site of the original party near Boston's Congress Street Bridge, the lines are rapidly being drawn for the first battle in the war for control of the American Revolution myth.

On the one side, trying to salvage the wrappings of America worn thin by Watergate and related revelations, will be a corporation-government coalition re-enacting the Tea Party with the use of a choreographed contingent of the Charlestown Militia. On the other will be the People's Bicentennial Commission, representing a broad spectrum of grassroots organizations, who will try to emphasize the revolutionary significance of the original Tea Party and its relationship to current political struggles.

Certainly, a study of history provides all the rationale for the impending confrontation as well as explaining the importance of the original guerrilla action 200 years ago.

The East India Company (EIC), whose tea sparked one of the major actions leading up to the Revolutionary War, was the ITT of its day. EIC was a powerful, multinational company faced with the sticky task of subduing rebellious foreign markets. And, naturally, the government, whose leadership overlapped that of EIC, agreed to impose a special tax on the company's tea sold in the American colonies with the revenue to be shared by the government and the company.

It seemed that the tax could be slipped by the colonists whose protests and demonstrations in the late 1770's had culminated in the Boston Massacre in the spring of 1770. In a reaction not unlike that of the American movement after the Kent State killings, many people retreated into an uneasy quiet. The radicals were in disarray; Sam Adams castigated John Hancock for a sudden "mellowing," and even Ben Franklin tried to scrounge himself a tax-collecting job for the crown.

Then, in 1773, the contents of a document revealing the collusion between the government and the EIC on the tea tax was leaked to the public. In those papers Massachusetts governor Thomas Hutchinson suggested that it might be necessary to make "an abridgement of what is called English liberty." When the EIC appointed close associates of Hutchinson to administer the tea agencies, the last shred of official credibility vanished.

By November, demands were circulating calling for the resignation of Hutchinson and other high officials. But the governor felt no reason to back down. For the first time the bare facts of the interconnection between the government and corporate power

er were becoming apparent to the majority of the people.

Finally, a focus for the discontent appeared when British ships bearing tea docked in Boston harbor. Shortly before the ships were to be unloaded, 8,000 colonists, whipped into a fury by Sam Adams at a meeting at Faneuil Hall, charged the docks and dumped the tea into the harbor. The crowd was dressed as Indians, not in mockery but rather out of respect. It was composed of workers and small entrepreneurs and clearly moved by the unpleasant prospect of secret corporate rule rather than by financial considerations since the tea on the ships was actually to be cheaper than the going black market price.

Seen in the light of our own document leaks, Watergate, government collusion with ITT and other large corporations, and the current oil hoax, the parallels between then and now seem to require little comment. The People's Bicentennial Commission, though, will be at the 200th anniversary to counter the corporation-government plans to water down the memory of that blow struck for people versus profits.

Boston 200, the city's official Tea Party group, is planning to herd 3,000 people into the Congress Street Bridge area to watch costumed, choreographed Charlestown Militia dump something into the harbor from the 75 foot replica of the original British ship. The replica ship will be docked next to the Salada Tea Company's permanent exhibit where souvenirs may be purchased following the performance.

The militia will assemble at the exact site of the original Tea Party, which, appropriately enough, is directly beneath the lobby of the ITT building. Governors, legislators and dignitaries from the original 13 states will be seated on a special boat in the harbor. All of the national media will be represented.

But the crimp in the well-planned affair will be the People's Bicentennial Commission (PBC) with their even more well-planned action. Next to the Boston 200 ship, PBC will dock their own replica of the 18th century sailing ship. Only this one will be 150 feet long, twice the size of the government ship, and on board will be displays on impeachment and corporate power which will be on display to the public.

A giant puppet of Nixon in royal robes, paraded through Boston for several days prior to the event, will emerge surrounded by oil drums and corporate effigies at the head of a noon time impeachment rally which will follow the original route of the 1773 demonstrators. Obviously this will lead them right into the middle of the choreographed dancing militiamen. And, as Ted Howard of PBC suggests, there will be a few "surprises."

"It's going to be a physical confrontation, obviously, on the docks," says Jeremy Rifkin, also of PBC. "I don't mean violent either. But they are doing precise choreography and when we swarm

into place, it's ended."

How will the city react to all this? "Sure, the city is defensive," says Rifkin, "but it's Catch 22; how the hell can they arrest people for being revolutionary at a commemoration of the Boston Tea Party?"

Harron Ellinson, the head of the Boston 200 group, seems to bare this out by trying to down-play the significance of PBC's presence. "Let them do their thing," she said, "it's for everybody to celebrate in their own way."

Also, there is the presence of the national media. "I don't think that Mayor White wants to have police stopping people from celebrating the Boston Tea Party in front of the news media," explained Rifkin. Because of this, PBC feels that excessive crowd control or the use of provocateurs by the government would be seen immediately by the people for what it is.

"We're just going to be raising the real issues," said Rifkin. "We'll be giving horns to all the spectators, and when the march enters the area with a thousand placards and a big 'Honk If He's Guilty' sign, there is no way the tone of the whole event won't be changed."

PBC is reluctant to say more of their actions except that they plan to give punch to their slogans "Turning the Heat on the Oil Companies" and "Impeach Big Business Too."

"PBC is pushing a perspective we don't get enough of," noted a member of Citizens for Participation in Political Action, a Boston-based organizing project. "Most of the grassroots organizations in Boston go light on the broad corporate critique because we've got our energies tied up in short range local issues. The Tea Party wouldn't have come from us."

And though 1973 has not really been a year of demonstrations, it seems that PBC and the Tea Party action could capture the imagination of large numbers of people who had nothing to do with the demonstrations and boycotts of the 60's.

Certainly, the kind of grassroots support that PBC has attracted seems to bear this out. Among their diverse supporters are the United Farmworkers Union, the New American Movement, Clergy and Laity Concerned, the National Council of Churches, and several labor unions.

Founded a little over a year ago to counter Nixon's floundering bicentennial group, PBC has grown through subscriptions to its publications and private and foundation donations into a very viable organization that the government is going to have to contend with right up through 1976.

But on December 16, there will be a Tea Party in Boston and the People's Bicentennial Commission will be there to celebrate a 200 year old action and at the same time point the finger at some current enemies. As the PBC slogan says: "Come Prepared to Make History."

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Party or wishing to help with silk-screening, guerrilla theater, leafletting and other work should call (617) 247-1851. For more general information about PBC write to: People's Bicentennial Commission, 1346 Connecticut Avenue, Washington D.C., or call (202) 833-9122.

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(Thanks to the Boston Phoenix for much of this information.)

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"PAYING THROUGH THE EAR:" STUDY REVEALS HOW HEARING-AID DEALERS DUPE THEIR CUSTOMERS

WASHINGTON (LNS)--In a recent report entitled "Paying Through the Ear," the Center for the Study of Responsive Law, a Nadar group, has charged the hearing aid industry with providing inadequate services, products and information.

The study accused dealers of recommending aids to people who don't need them and exaggerating the benefits of their product. It also points out that a high percentage of hearing aids sold in this country are defective. According to the Washington Post, qualified testers put that figure somewhere between 10 and 50 percent.

Hearing aids are sold by dealers to customers they have tested themselves or who are referred by audiologists who do not sell the aids. Presumably, audiologists would have no reason to recommend aids to people who don't need them, but, according to the report, some audiologists get kickbacks from the dealers on their referrals.

The report also accuses dealers of misrepresenting the benefits of hearing aids. Dealers tell their customers that they can regain their normal hearing or that a hearing aid will prevent a further loss. Both are false promises.

Hearing aid manufacturers ascribe customer dissatisfaction to exaggerated expectations or misunderstandings. But the Center for the Study of Responsive Law does not agree and neither does the Federal Trade Commission. The FTC has charged 10 major hearing aid manufacturers with 15 counts of false and misleading advertising in the last 15 years.

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"Whatever the apparent cause of any riots may be, the real one is always want of happiness. It shows that something is wrong in the system of government that injures the felicity by which society is to be preserved."

--Thomas Paine, 1792

INMATE'S "SUICIDE" AT MARION PENITENTIARY
SPARKS PROTEST AND CALLS FOR INVESTIGATION

LIBERATION News Service

MARION, Illinois (LNS)--The recent death of inmate Jackson "Curly" Fee at the U.S. Penitentiary at Marion, Illinois has sparked a wave of protest within the prison that has included hunger strikes and self-mutilation. Fee's death, which occurred in late October, was ruled a suicide by prison officials. But the circumstances surrounding his death prompted inmates to demand an investigation.

Fifteen months ago there was a work strike at Marion to protest the beating of an inmate by a guard carrying a black jack, which is against prison rules. Certain inmates were singled out for their involvement in the strike and put in the Long Term Control Unit (LTC)--a special segregation section at the maximum security Marion prison, the highest security prison in the U.S.--for an indefinite period of time.

Fee had been in the LTC unit ever since the work strike ended when, on October 22, a group of helmeted guards armed with clubs and shields entered his cell. According to inmate witnesses, the 48 year old prisoner was beaten and taken to the "boxcar," an even more punitive segregation unit.

In a letter to Fee's family written shortly before his death and received on November 1, an inmate wrote:

"Today, after lunch, the goon squad, about a dozen men with cut-off ball bats and shields and chains, opened Fee's door...and beat him to the floor and took him to one of the box cars, a special cell downstairs.

"I heard him beg them to let go of his testicles. They crushed them a week or so ago....I told them I would repeat all their dirty and violent brutality. I think they have driven him out of his mind.

"These people will do anything the higher officials order. I told them they were dirty and one guard said, 'We don't want to do this but we must or we won't have no jobs and can't feed our families.'

"As I have told you, I will write each day and I have no fear of this dirty rotten scum. They are all alike."

Soon after Fee was taken away he started to behave strangely. A friend who was worried because Fee had stopped eating and talking asked to see him but prison officials denied the request. The manager of the LTC unit claimed that Fee was "faking."

According to prison officials, Fee was found dead in his cell on October 27, where they claim he had hung himself with his bed sheets. Warden George Pickett said that an autopsy revealed no marks on Fee's body other than those around his neck and stated flatly that "he was not beaten by guards."

Inmates, however, refused to buy that story. Immediately, complaints were filed with a House subcommittee on corrections and the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU).

On October 28, over 30 prisoners went on a hunger strike to demand an investigation into his death, an end to all Behavior Modification Programs, and a halt to the soon-to-be-opened National Behavior Research Center in Butner, North Carolina. Most of the fasters refused to eat for 13 days. Two inmates collapsed as a result and were taken to the hospital and another was transferred to the psychiatric unit.

Three after the hunger strike began, on October 31, one inmate severed his heel tendons in support of the demands. On November 5, another inmate did the same thing and a few days later still another inmate slashed his wrists to dramatize the demands.

Arpiar Saunders, an ACLU lawyer investigating the case who visited Marion early in November, described the situation there as "very tense." And the House subcommittee on corrections has indicated that it will start an investigation, admitting that "The committee has received more correspondence in recent months relating to potentially dangerous conditions at the Marion institution than at any other federal institution." Fee's family also plans to conduct an investigation into his death.

As the use of Long Term Control Units and other punitive segregation units increases in U.S. prisons as a way of "modifying" the behavior of activists inmates, the urgency to protest such "modification" becomes more immediate. The Ad Hoc Committee for Prisoner Solidarity, a Denver based prisoner support group, is asking people to write letters demanding an investigation into Fee's death.

They should be sent to: Warden, U.S. Penitentiary, P.O. Box 1000, Marion, Illinois 62959 and to your representative in Congress.

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(Thanks to the Ad Hoc Committee for Prisoner Solidarity, the Fortune Society and several inmates inside Marion Prison for the information in this story.)

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SOME THINGS JUST CAN'T BE DELEGATED

WASHINGTON (LNS) -- A Washington Post columnist reported recently that King Timahoe, President Nixon's prize Irish setter, has yet to be mated. According to reports, the First Family had hoped to have a puppy by now, and had even asked Timahoe's breeder to set about finding a suitable mate, subject to the president's approval.

However, the breeder, E. Irving Eldridge, reports that he has heard nothing from the White House on the subject recently. "I assume it is going to have to wait until the President doesn't have so much on his mind."

Apparently Nixon doesn't delegate such decisions to lesser beings. Unlike campaign finances, finding, counting tapes and organizing burglaries, finding a mate for a dog is not a task to be trifled with.

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"THIS IS A VICTORY FOR THE WOMEN OF CANADA":  
CANADIAN ABORTIONIST ACQUITTED

LIBERATION News Service

MONTREAL, Quebec, Canada (LNS)--After 10 hours of deliberation, a Montreal jury found Dr. Henry Morgenthaler not guilty of having performed an illegal abortion. Morgenthaler has said that he performed between six and seven thousand abortions in his clinic, which he founded in 1968 when he was the only doctor doing abortions in Montreal.

Under a Canadian law instituted in 1969, abortion is illegal except under the following conditions: the abortion must be performed by a qualified medical practitioner in an accredited or approved hospital; the doctor must first receive a certificate in writing from the therapeutic abortion committee of that hospital, stating that the continuation of the patient's pregnancy "would, or would be likely to, endanger her life or health;" the therapeutic abortion committee must consist of not less than three members, each of whom must be a qualified medical practitioner; and the doctor performing the abortion cannot sit on the committee.

No hospital is required to establish such a committee, and according to a report by the Canadian Department of Health and Welfare, as of August 1970, only 120 of Canada's 453 accredited hospitals had done so.

A woman who tries to get an abortion via this route must find a sympathetic doctor, and sometimes one or two specialists to back up the first physician's recommendation. They must examine her and submit written reports to the committee, which in turn may take time to decide. She may also have to wait for a hospital bed.

Because time is an important factor in an abortion, this delay often means that a more dangerous and time consuming procedure must be used. And, because the whole application process and the hospital abortion itself can run into a lot of money, abortions are really only available to women who can well afford to pay for them.

Morgenthaler's defense invoked a section of the criminal law which states that no one is liable for performing a necessary operation if it is done with reasonable skill and reasonable care is taken. This section of the law was intended to protect people who have to perform surgery in emergency conditions.

The case was tried in Canada's Criminal Court which cannot set precedents or change the law. So while Dr. Morgenthaler was found not guilty, the abortion law established in 1969 remains in effect. The jury's verdict does create a conflict in the criminal code, however, which must now be resolved. The prosecution has already moved to appeal the case as a "miscarriage of justice."

Morgenthaler's trial and subsequent acquittal this November stem from August 15, 1973 when police raided his clinic, arresting him and 15 others, including women who were there to get abortions and friends accompanying them. Four charges were brought against him at that time and he was released on the condition that he not speak to the media or leave

Montreal. On August 30, shortly after his release pending trial, he was rearrested and six new charges were pressed against him. In March, he will be brought to trial on 12 charges resulting from the August 15 raid and previous arrests.

One of the women arrested with Morgenthaler on August 15 is a foreign graduate who testified for the prosecution in order to protect herself against prosecution and deportation. It is her abortion that the case against Morgenthaler is based on. She testified that she was not able to obtain an abortion in a Montreal hospital, and could not afford a trip to New York, where she could find one more easily. She also said that she was unmarried and needed the abortion because neither she nor the man involved could afford to support a child, and she "did not want the shame that accompanies an unwed mother and illegitimate child."

Speaking at a country-wide conference of the Canadian Women's Coalition to Repeal the Abortion Laws, Morgenthaler said "I had a choice: I could hide behind a screen of legality and refuse to help while denouncing these laws as cruel, unjust and dangerous to women, or else I could defy these laws and offer help to women." Morgenthaler's defense has received broad support from women, labor unions and student groups.

When the jury, composed of 11 men and one woman--the government prosecution rejected all women of childbearing age--brought in its verdict of not guilty, Morgenthaler turned to the courthouse full of women and said, "This is a victory for the women of Canada."

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[Information in this story comes from Canadian University Press, Poundmaker and Abortion in Canada by Eleanor Wright Peirine.]

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[See packet #567 for more information.]

FARAH FORCED TO CLOSE 2 MORE PLANTS  
BECAUSE OF STRIKE & BOYCOTT

SAN ANTONIO, Texas (LNS) -- On December 6, the Farah Manufacturing Company announced the closing of both its San Antonio plants, the third and fourth Farah factories to be shut down in the last two months.

Over 3,000 Farah workers, mostly Chicanas, have been on strike for union recognition and improvement of working conditions since May, 1972. For over a year, Farah support committees have been organizing boycotts of Farah plants all over the country.

The company lost \$14,000,000 last year because of the strike and boycott, and the four factories remaining open are only operating two days a week.

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DON'T MISS THE COVER OF THIS PACKET.  
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December 8, 1973

more....

[See graphics in this packet and #557,563,564, 565 and 568.]

# JUNTA PR CAMPAIGN UNDERWAY AS CHILEANS FACE RAMPANT INFLATION, SHORTAGES

LIBERATION News Service

NEW YORK (LNS)-- The Chilean junta is currently engaged in a world-wide campaign to create a positive image for itself. In many parts of the world, the task is difficult indeed; memories of the thousands of dead, and tens of thousands imprisoned and "missing" are strong. In Milan, for example, more than 150,000 people marched to demand freedom for Chile's political prisoners. It was the largest demonstration in Europe since World War II.

Even getting soccer teams to play in the two stadiums in Santiago-- both used as prisons in the weeks after the coup-- has been hard. The Soviet Union's soccer team-- the present World Cup holders-- has refused to play "in the Santiago stadium, red with the Chilean patriot blood, transformed into a concentration camp, a torture arena and a place of execution."

However, most of these rejections are not as worrisome to the junta as are the reservations that have greeted their regime inside the U.S. Coming mostly from the U.S. left, the liberal press and some members of Congress, criticisms of the regime have focussed on the brutal repression of the junta against its opponents and on the "illegality" of the coup. In Congress, already sensitive to the criticism that Washington supports right wing governments all over the world, is worried that further investigations may reveal more U.S. involvement in the coup.

The past month has seen several trips made by leading junta supporters, hoping to "explain" the need for a coup to U.S. businesses and to the press.

One segment of this campaign is a tour by Chilean pianist and junta supporter Ivan Nunez and Chilean Ambassador to the UN Raoul Bazan. They were scheduled to hold "benefits" for the restoration of Chile in San Francisco, Chicago and New York. The Chicago appearance was canceled because of threatened demonstrations.

In New York, more than 1200 demonstrators greeted the "benefit" by rallying outside Town Hall, December 5. Demonstrators with signs and banners stood in the pouring rain to chant and yell as the audience filed into the hall. Most of the audience, who paid \$10 a ticket to attend the concert, were apparently members of the right-wing exile community of Cubans, Chileans and other Latin Americans. Many of the audience were visibly distressed by the presence of the demonstrators.

Demonstrators who had hoped to purchase tickets to carry the protest inside the hall, found that the junta had arranged to sell the tickets only through their embassy and through the Chilean airlines.

New York University students and faculty had attempted to get the university, which owns Town Hall, to cancel the concert. The University explained that the hall was rented to anyone who did not "advocate the overthrow of the government." Apparently, that applies only to the U.S. government, since the

the fact that the junta overthrew a legally elected government failed to influence their decision.

On Monday, December 4, two days before the concert, a bomb exploded in the building housing the offices of the U.S. Committee for Justice in Latin America (USLA). USLA has been conducting a campaign to organize support for Chilean political prisoners. They were a sponsor of the anti-junta demonstration, along with groups like the United Farmworkers, the Chile Solidarity Committee and the New American Movement.

Three people were injured in the blast, which caused extensive damage in the building. So far no arrests have been made.

The junta has good reason to be working extra hard to get support outside Chile, because it has become increasingly clear that many inside Chile, even those who originally supported the coup, are beginning to have doubts.

This is not only because of the massive and brutal repression, which has swept up many non-political and even anti-Allende people along with the supporters of the Popular Unity government. Many doubts are beginning to be expressed about the job the junta is doing with the Chilean economy.

Already, General Augusto Pinochet, head of the junta, has announced that the rate of inflation (a problem for which Allende was harshly criticized) will reach 1600% within the next year. He has called upon Chileans to "make sacrifices". Not surprisingly enough, these sacrifices have been demanded from the poor as well as some middle class people.

In many cases, wages have been frozen, or even reduced, as prices skyrocket. In addition, the work week has been extended from 44 to 48 hours for many of Chile's factory workers--without any increase in pay.

Of course, the junta, justifiably fearful of possible rebellion against its new order, is continuing its repression. One move, recently announced, was the plan to "abolish" the campamentos-- the ramshackle slums which surround Santiago and Chile's other large cities.

It was inside the campamentos that Allende had one of his strongest bases. It was in campamentos named "Che Guevara" and "Nueva Habana" that neighborhood medical clinics, schools and cooperative employment were set up. Now they are where the greatest threat to the junta rests.

In a plan reminiscent of the resettlement of Vietnamese civilians by the U.S., the junta plans to bulldoze the settlements and disperse the population.

Of course, things are always hard after a coup, but the junta has found some helpful friends. In November, Ismael Huerta, the junta's foreign relations secretary, completed talks in New York with more than 100 leaders of various U.S. businesses and banks. Aiming to negotiate new loans for the junta, Huerta managed to obtain a \$24 million loan from Manufacturers Hanover Trust-- with \$20 million more promised in the near future. Eight to ten other U.S. banks and two Canadian banks also have offered

loans totalling \$150 million.

The U.S. government itself, which had banned Export-Import Bank loans to Allende, gave the junta a \$24 million loan to be used to buy U.S. wheat. This loan was crucial to the junta who, apparently, have not been able to solve the severe bread shortage at home.

The total of these loans have begun to reach the normal level of Chile's credit holdings, which from 1958-1970 averaged about \$300 million a year. During the Allende years, however, the U.S.-instigated "silent blockade" reduced that sum to about \$30 million.

One wonders how the Chilean economy under Allende would have fared if the \$300 million credit had been maintained.

During November, the junta also announced that it has invited back more than 300 foreign investors mostly U.S. companies-- whose firms were nationalized under Allende. Many of the firms have been returned to their pre-Allende management. Both General Tire Co. and Dow Chemical have publicly expressed interest in the invitation. It is rumored, on the financial pages of the major U.S. papers, that ITT is negotiating to reclaim its controlling interest in the Chilean Telephone Co.

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[Thanks to the Guardian for some of the information in this story.]

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#### PRISONERS CALL FOR CHRISTMAS FAST IN SUPPORT OF ATTICA

*"We will not mourn the dead nor sing praises to the survivors. Too many of us are still dying, thousands of us are buried alive. We refuse to take the x-mas meal as a gesture of solidarity with the 60 Attica Brothers who are taking the weight. We are protesting everything that Attica represents."*

*--from the call for a Prisoner's Christmas Fast from the Walpole Chapter of the National Prisoners Reform Association Against Poverty, Racism and War.*

NEW YORK (LNS) -- A group of prisoners from Walpole Prison in Massachusetts are calling on prisoners around the country to have a one-day Christmas fast in solidarity with the Attica prisoners who died or have been indicted for their part in the Attica Prison Rebellion. They also ask that people outside of prison give the cost of the Christmas meal or buy "one less x-mas gift for each other and donate the money" to the Attica Brothers Legal Defense Fund.

Prisoners in many prisons in different parts of the country are reportedly planning to fast. A number of high schools, churches, food co-ops and community newspapers have pledged money. Vietnam Veterans Against the War/Winter Soldier Organization has announced its support.

The call states:

"All across America, hidden behind the myths & the dollar signs & fancy tinsel, there is hunger of body and spirit. The system-enforcers are everywhere; repressing people, violating the Bill of Rights, pro-

tecting & enforcing the priorities and life styles of the profit-makers. Forty million people live in poverty. Millions more can barely make ends meet. There is massive inflation, unemployment, broken-down neighborhoods, outrageous price-tags on everything from the basic necessities of life to civil rights. And for the millions of Third World & poor white people, the injustices of poverty institutionalized racism, inequality of opportunity, exploitation & oppression is what it is all about. We prisoners know this. These injustices are what prison is all about.

"Attica is to the prison system what the American police-court-prison business is to capitalism. Attica is the reverse side of the American dollar. Attica is poverty, is inequality, is injustice, is racism.

"Attica is My Lai, is ITT, is Watergate, is the abuse of power, is Behavior Modification. Attica was no mistake. The machine-gun butchery was officially sanctioned.

"Two years ago, after months of being lied to, harassed, ignored in trying to negotiate their grievances, 1200 men risked whatever they had -- and revolted. That New York list of 28 grievances has been echoed for many years all over the country, in every prison & city uprising from Walpole & Wounded Knee to San Quentin & Newark.

"They were the same demands for those human & civil rights that have long been denied to people held under the iron heel of the system; whether we be in ghettos or reservations, in sweat shops or mindless schools or in prison.

"Three million dollars & all the resources of the state of New York have been geared to convict the 60 defendants to justify the state's barbarity. They have been indicted on 1300 separate counts, calling for thousands of years in prison terms, plus the death penalty.

"Their lawyers are all volunteering services, as are many people, but the defense expenses will cost over \$500,000."

Send what you can to Christmas Fast, Attica Brothers Defense Fund c/o National Lawyers Guild, 23 Cornelia Street, New York, N.Y. 10014.

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"The war has changed the people's situation. Where the war has already broken out, the people are no longer beaten, there are no longer taxes which exploit the people, the people are not humiliated. There are hardships but this is the price of victory."

--Joaquim Maquival, of FRELIMO, fighting against Portuguese colonial rule in Mozambique

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Dear subscribers:

Take a look at the front cover (in case you missed it). Things are really tight for us now, Please send what you can. LNS

THREE OF CHICAGO EIGHT & KUNSTLER CONVICTED OF  
CONTEMPT CHARGES; TRIAL BRINGS OUT GOVERNMENT  
TACTICS AGAINST THE LEFT

LIBERATION News Service

Chicago, Ill (LNS)--On December 4, four years after the original trial of the Chicago 8, Dave Dellinger, Abbie Hoffman, Jerry Rubin and attorney William Kunstler were found guilty of contempt of the court of Judge Julius Hoffman. But, said judge Edward T. Gignoux, in determining the sentence, the defendants' behavior can't be considered apart from Judge Hoffman's "condemnatory conduct...From the beginning of the trial [Hoffman] telegraphed to the jury his contempt for the defense."

With that, Gignoux announced that he would not impose any jail sentences on the four, saying that they had been sufficiently punished by the original contempt convictions and the time they had already served. "It's a totally unique situation," said Rick Wagner of the Center for Constitutional Rights, who defended the four. "They were not given a suspended sentence nor probation, just no sentence." All of the defendants are going to appeal the verdict.

The trial on the contempt charges was just the latest link in a chain of events which began with the demonstrations surrounding the 1968 Democratic Convention in Chicago when the eight were indicted for conspiracy.

The press coverage of the Chicago 8 trial in the fall of 1969 played up the defendants' "antics" in the courtroom. Judge Hoffman's actions however could hardly be called antics. At one point he ordered defendant Bobby Seale bound and gagged for insisting on his right to choose his own counsel. Seale was eventually severed from the case.

In fact, Judge Hoffman's attitude towards the defendants and their lawyers was so discriminatory that an appeals court threw out convictions for crossing state lines to incite to riot (they were acquitted of the conspiracy charges) and ordered a new trial on the contempt charges. At the end of the trial, Hoffman had levied contempt sentences ranging from 2 months, 18 days to 4 years, 13 days for the seven defendants and their lawyers. Judge Gignoux cut down the number of contempt charges, reducing the possible sentences to six months.

The recent trial proved to be much more than a mere contempt hearing. In presenting their case, the defense offered testimony which showed what kind of atmosphere the original trial was held in.

John M. O'Brian, a former undercover agent for the 113th Military Intelligence Group (MI) admitted on the stand that he spied on the defendants during the trial, and on a number of occasions impersonated Tom Hayden in phone calls to defendant Rennie Davis and the Defense Office.

O'Brian also testified that the Legion of Justice, a right-wing paramilitary organization broke into the Chicago 8 Defense Office and stole documents which were later turned over to MI. He said that the Legion also supplied them with information on other "anti-war and leftist groups."

Around the time of the original trial, the Legion staged an armed attack on the Chicago offices of the Socialist Workers Party and the Young Socialist

Alliance, stealing records, documents and cash. Masked Legion members armed with Mace, tire irons and clubs injured at least one YSA member who required stitches.

O'Brian also testified that G. Gordon Liddy (who was working for the Treasury Department at the time, and was later to achieve fame at Watergate) visited the offices of the 113th MI group "some-time between October 8th and 11th," dates which coincide with the Weatherman Days of Rage action in Chicago.

O'Brian also said that during the Chicago 8 trial, he met once or twice a week with Sgt. Joseph Grubisic, then head of the Chicago Police Department's Subversives Intelligence Unit.

Present at at least one of those meetings was Chicago Police undercover agent Tom West, who infiltrated the Chicago 8 defense. According to the Militant, West also infiltrated the Young Socialist Alliance and participated in the Days of Rage.

O'Brian said that the Army's intelligence reports on the Chicago 8 were forwarded to the Pentagon, the FBI, the U.S. Secret Service, the Chicago Police Department and other law enforcement agencies. In November the Pentagon acknowledged that its agents did spy on the Chicago 8, telling the right-wing Chicago Tribune that they "were following instructions of the President to support civilian authorities in collecting information."

It was against that background that the original trial was held, said the defense. The "irrascibility and combativeness" of the prosecution and the judge were also cited in the hearing.

"They created an atmosphere of a frontier courtroom," said Wagner, "and they expected [the defendants] to act like they were in the House of Lords. The defendants and their lawyers were not going to abandon their constitutional rights during the trial."

Speaking about the December 4th decision, Wagner said, "The convictions were a function of what the law technically required, and the sentences, what justice required. It just shows the chasm between law and justice. It's that chasm that we're trying to eliminate."

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"This administration has proved that it is utterly incapable of cleaning out the corruption which has corroded it, and re-establishing the confidence and faith of the people in the morality and honesty of their government employees. The investigations which have been conducted... have only scratched the surface."

--Congressman Richard Nixon, speaking about the Truman Administration, as quoted in his book My Six Crises

". . .there has been this feeling that perhaps the government is lying. . ."

--Herbert G. Klein, Director of Communications for the Executive Branch, November 11, 1969



*TOP RIGHT: Bach Mai hospital bombed just before Christmas, 1972. See story on page one of this packet.*

*CREDIT: Alex Knoop/LNS*

*TOP LEFT: A man working on a pulp paper machine in the town Thai Nguyen, Thai Bac Province, North Vietnam. May be used with the Cora Weiss interview which starts on page one of this packet.*

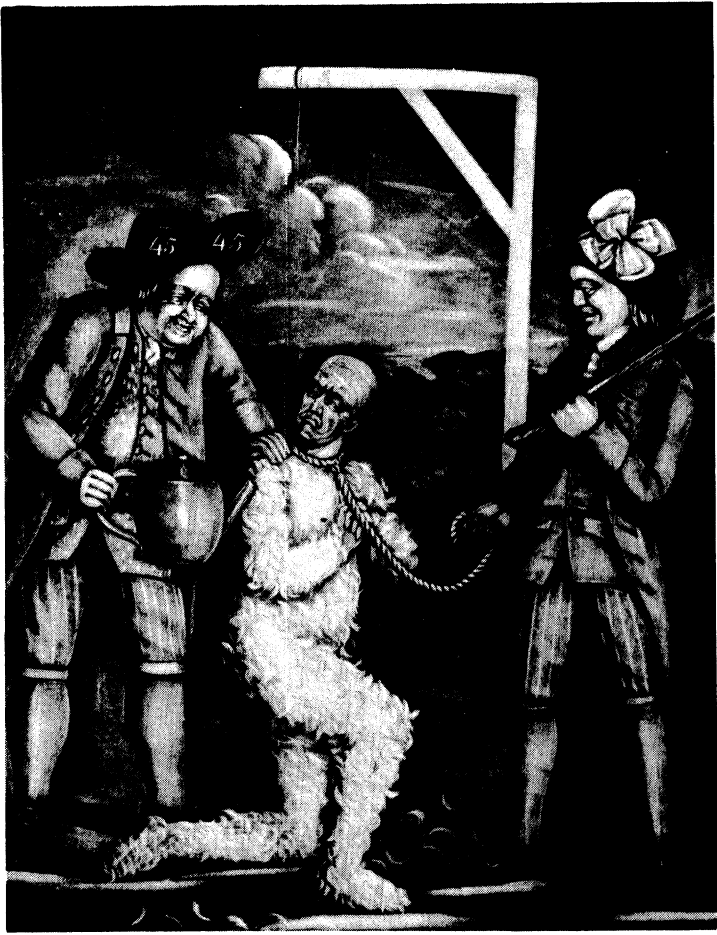
*CREDIT: Cora Weiss/LNS*

*BOTTOM RIGHT: Picking tea in North Vietnam. May be used with the interview beginning on page one of this packet.*

*CREDIT: Cora Weiss/LNS*

*BOTTOM LEFT: Women weighing oranges. Son Dong village, Bac Thai Province, North Vietnam. Can be used with story on page one of this packet.*

*CREDIT: Cora Weiss/LNS*



#### PEOPLE'S LAWSUIT TO SET ASIDE THE 1972 ELECTION

☐ I want to be a plaintiff.

I hereby authorize the Committee to Set Aside the 1972 Election to act on my behalf by doing all things necessary or desirable to carry through this suit including retaining attorneys and receiving any and all notices. This authorization is valid only in connection with this suit. I understand the Committee will assume all expenses and will not require me to make any reimbursement.

Signature of Plaintiff \_\_\_\_\_

☐ I will help organize support for the lawsuit.

☐ Enclosed is a contribution to help defray legal expenses.

☐ Please send me \_\_\_\_\_ copies of this brochure (\$20.00 per thousand)

NAME (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

RETURN TO: Committee to Set Aside the 1972 Election  
156 Fifth Avenue, Room 634  
New York, New York 10010

Telephone: (212) 741-3930

TOP RIGHT: Boston colonialists threatening to  
pour tea on a British customhouse officer  
that they have just tarred and feathered.  
This can be used with the story about this years  
Boston Tea Party anniversary celebration on  
page 4.

TOP LEFT: Demonstration that was outside the con-  
cert that was presented by the Chilean junta  
in Town Hall Cinema, New York City, on Dec. 5.  
See the story on page 8.  
CREDIT: LNS Womens Graphics

MIDDLE RIGHT CREDIT: SOMMAIRE/LNS

BOTTOM RIGHT: This is a plaintiff's card for the  
People's Lawsuit to Set Aside the 1972 Election.  
Organizations or individuals can fill it out. See  
the story about the lawsuit in last packet (#573).

BOTTOM LEFT: Photo showing bomb damage inside  
office of U.S. Committee for Justice in Latin  
America. The bomb exploded Dec. 4 and caused  
extensive damage and injured three people.  
See story on page 8.  
CREDIT: LNS